

Rolling Stone

November 26, 2009

Tinariwen ★★★¹/₂

Imidiwan: Companions *World Village*



As the latest by this Tuareg blues tribe shows, desert nomads gotta move. Having worked in studios, they return to their home village in northern Mali, where they jammed and recorded via generator and starlight. There's a campfire vibe, though given the heat put out by even the acoustic jams, bonfire is more like it. The electric guitars flash like lightning, the looping melodies and Tamashek raps hypnotize. The documentary DVD is impressive, but the music is so vivid, you can close your eyes and imagine your own.

W.H.